



6712-01

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-1213]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

Under Delegated Authority

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

The Commission may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and

to Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov. Include in the comments the Title as shown in the “Supplementary Information” section below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418-2918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-1213.

Title: Application to Participate in a Reverse Incentive Auction, FCC Form 177.

Form Number: FCC Form 177.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities, not-for-profit institutions, and state, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents and Responses: 600 respondents and 600 responses.

Estimated Time Per Response: 90 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One-time reporting requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for the currently approved information collection is contained in sections 154(i) and 309(j)(5) of the Communications Act, as amended, 47 U.S.C. sections 4(i), 309(j)(5), and sections 1.2204 and 73.3700(h)(4)(i), (h)(4)(ii), and (h)(6) of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. sections 1.2204, 73.3700(h)(4)(i), (h)(4)(ii), and (h)(6).

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 900 hours.

Total Annual Costs: None.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: Certain information collected on FCC Form 177 will be treated as confidential for various periods of time during the course of the broadcast incentive auction (BIA) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. section 1452(a)(3) and section 1.2206(b) of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. section 1.2206(b). To the extent necessary, respondents may request confidential treatment of information collected on FCC Form 177 that is not already being

treated as confidential pursuant to section 0.459 of the Commission's rules. See 47 C.F.R. section 0.459.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Needs and Uses: A request for approval of this information collection will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) after this 60-day comment period in order to obtain the full three year clearance from OMB. On February 22, 2012, the President signed the Spectrum Act, which, among other things, authorized the Commission to conduct incentive auctions, and directed that the Commission use this innovative tool for an incentive auction of broadcast television spectrum to help meet the Nation's growing spectrum needs. See Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Pub. L. No. 112-96, sections 6402, 6403, 125 Stat. 156 (2012) (Spectrum Act). The Commission's broadcast incentive auction (BIA) will have three main components: (1) a reverse auction in which broadcast television licensees will submit bids to voluntarily relinquish their spectrum usage rights in exchange for defined shares of proceeds from the forward auction; (2) a repacking of the broadcast television bands; and (3) a forward auction of initial licenses for flexible use of the newly available spectrum. The information collection requirements reported under this new collection are the result of various Commission actions in which the Commission adopted general rules to govern the auction—including various application disclosures and certifications that must be made by broadcast television licensees to establish their eligibility to participate in the reverse auction—in order to implement the new and novel incentive auction approach for use in the BIA.

Under this information collection, the Commission will collect information that will be used to determine whether an applicant is legally qualified to participate in a reverse incentive auction. To aid in collecting this information, the Commission has created FCC Form 177, which the public will use to participate in reverse incentive auctions, including the Commission's upcoming broadcast incentive reverse auction. The Commission's auction rules and related requirements are designed to ensure that the competitive bidding process is limited to serious qualified

applicants, deter possible abuse of the bidding and licensing process, and enhance the use of competitive bidding to assign Commission licenses and permits in furtherance of the public interest. The information collected on FCC Form 177 will be used by the Commission to determine if an applicant is legally qualified to participate in the reverse auction. Commission staff will review the information collected on FCC Form 177 as part of the pre-auction process, prior to the start of the reverse auction. Staff will determine whether each applicant satisfies the Commission's requirements to participate in the reverse auction. Without the information collected on FCC Form 177, the Commission will not be able to determine if an applicant is legally qualified to participate in the reverse auction and has complied with the various applicable regulatory and statutory auction requirements for such participation.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

Office of the Secretary.

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